

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 13-16, 19 and 20 are rejected. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 3, 10-12, 17, 18 and 21-34 are canceled. Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 13-16, 19 and 20 are presently pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested as the claims as amended are believed to be in condition for allowance as indicated by the Examiner.

The basis for the amendment of claim 1 is found on page 11, lines 24-30; page 13, lines 4-17; page 15, lines 3-5; and Example 1 of the specification as originally filled.

Applicants greatly thank the Examiner for the indication in paragraph 3 of the Final Office Action mailed October 20, 2005 that the claims are allowable over the prior art with the above amendment. Accordingly, Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the limitation that the photographic article's upper layers are permeable to aqueous developing solution, which allows aqueous photographic development there through. As graciously referenced by the Examiner the above amendment has been fully disclosed in the specification as originally filed and does not create any new matter or new question issues.

In paragraph 1 of the Final Office Action mailed October 20, 2005 claims 1,2, 4-9, 13-17, 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Aylward et al. for the same reasons as set forth in paragraphs 1 and 3 of the Office Action mailed March 21, 2005. As discussed above Applicants have amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner to be allowable over these references. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In paragraph 2 of the Final Office Action mailed October 20, 2005 claims 1,2, 4-8, 13-17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Hannon and Wingender for the same reasons as set forth in the Office Action mailed March 21, 2005. As discussed above Applicants have amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner to be allowable over these references. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendment, the claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the above amendment be entered, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that an early Notice of Allowance be issued in this application

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul A. Leipold", is written over a horizontal line.

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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.